

04-08-04



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/656,626

Filing Date: 09/05/2003

Applicant: Hiroshi Nakajima

Group Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Hilary L. Gutman

Title: CONNECTING STRUCTURE OF AIR DUCT OF
VEHICULAR AIR CONDITIONING UNIT

Attorney Docket: 4041J-000768

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 10, 2004, Paper No./Mail
Date 0, please consider the following.

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions
under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Species A is directed towards Figures 1A, 1B, and 2 and Claims 5-7; and

Species B is directed towards Figure 3 and Claim 8.

Applicant, without traverse, respectfully requests the Examiner to proceed

with Species A directed towards Figures 1A, 1B and 2. Applicant believes Claims 1-7 read on the elected species and that at least Claims 1-4 are generic. Applicant requests that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

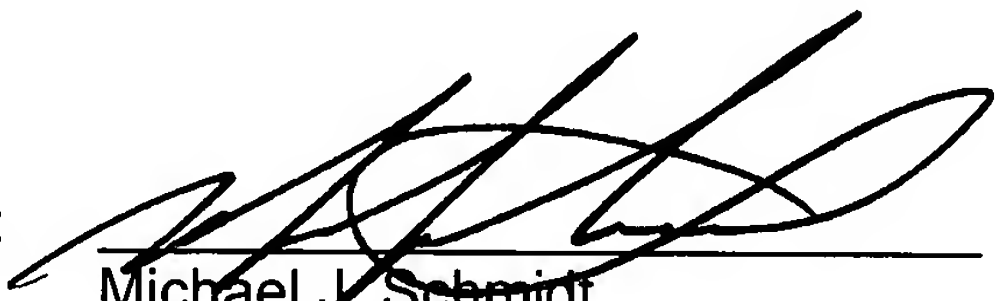
CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

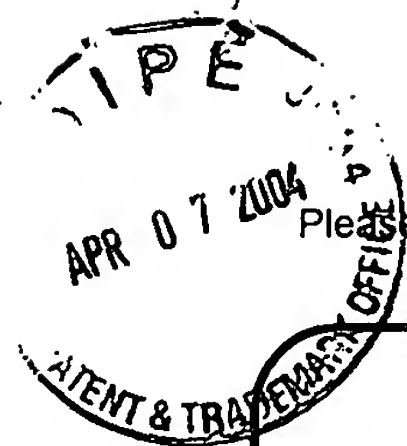
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 7, 2004
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

By:


Michael J. Schmidt
Reg. No. 34,007

MJS/pmg

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/656,626 | |
| | Filing Date | 09/05/2003 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Hiroshi Nakajima | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3612 | |
| | Examiner Name | Hilary L. Gutman | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | 4041J-000768 |

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard |
| Remarks | | The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Firm or Individual name | Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. | Attorney Name | Michael J. Schmidt | Reg. No. | 34,007 |
| Signature | | | | | |
| Date | April 7, 2004 | | | | |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below. | | | |
| Typed or printed name | Michael J. Schmidt | Express Mail Label No. | EV 406 076 808 US (04/07/2004) |
| Signature | | Date | April 7, 2004 |

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